

ATTACHMENT C

COPY

8 September 1955

The Honorable Lewis Strauss
Chairman, U.S. Atomic Energy Commission
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Lewis:

As you are aware, there are at present a considerable number of employees of the Central Intelligence Agency who have been granted clearances for access to Restricted Data information in order to carry out intelligence activities having a bearing on the field of atomic energy.

At the present time the need to have access to Restricted Data is first determined within this Agency, and requests for the necessary clearances are then processed to the Atomic Energy Commission Security Office. In accordance with current procedures, each request is then subject to a full-field investigation conducted by the Civil Service Commission or the Federal Bureau of Investigation. This procedure for granting clearances appeared to be required under the provisions of the Atomic Energy Act of 1946 as amended. However, it is my belief that Section 145(b) of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 is somewhat less restrictive in that it permits an authorization for access to Restricted Data without the necessity of an investigation by the Civil Service Commission upon a determination by the Commission or the General Manager that such action is clearly consistent with the national interest. Also Section 143 authorizes any employee of an agency of the Department of Defense or any member of the Armed Forces, under certain broad conditions, to have access to Restricted Data required in the performance of his duties.

Each employee of this Agency prior to entering on duty is the subject of a full-field investigation through the investigative facilities of CIA. The coverage of this investigation is at least the equivalent of the Civil Service investigation for access to Restricted Data and the investigative requirements of Executive Order 10450. In addition, our evaluation of the investigative results conforms with Executive Order 10450 and certain special employment requirements of this Agency. You are also advised that the handling of Restricted Data within CIA, including storage facilities, is in full accord with the security requirements of your Commission and is regularly reviewed by AEC representatives.

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In my view an unnecessary delay and duplication of effort is occasioned by requiring two similar full-field investigations of CIA employees when they are to be granted access to Restricted Data. In view of the apparent authority under Section 145(b) of your Act, it is requested that the Commission enter into appropriate arrangements with CIA to permit Agency employees to be granted access to Restricted Data without the necessity of investigation by the Civil Service Commission or Federal Bureau of Investigation. A system of security certification by this Agency to your Commission for each employee granted access or provision for a system of review of such cases can be established to meet any requirements you deem appropriate in this regard.

If further information is desired, I would be pleased to have our Director of Security confer with the appropriate official of the Atomic Energy Commission.

With kindest regards.

Sincerely,

C.P. Cabell
Lieutenant General, USAF
Acting Director

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CONCUR:

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6 Sept 55 /s/ H. Gates Lloyd
date Acting Deputy Director (Support)

/s/ George G. Carey
date Deputy Director (Intelligence)

/s/ Walter L. Pforzheimer
date Legislative Counsel

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